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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.								
10/538,624	02/09/2006	Saleh Osman	PHUS020555	8882								
65913 NXP, B.V. NXP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT M/S41-SJ 1109 MCKAY DRIVE SAN JOSE, CA 95131	7590 12/18/2007		<table border="1"><tr><td colspan="2">EXAMINER</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">NGUYEN, HIEU P</td></tr><tr><td>ART UNIT</td><td>PAPER NUMBER</td></tr><tr><td>2817</td><td></td></tr></table>		EXAMINER		NGUYEN, HIEU P		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	2817	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ip.department.us@nxp.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/538,624

Applicant(s) *TH*

OSMAN ET AL.

Examiner

Hieu P. Nguyen

Art Unit

2817

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/14/2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9-10 and 13-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 8, 11 and 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-6 and 13-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Tichauer** (U.S. 6,362,690).

Regarding claims 1-5 and 13-18, Tichauer discloses (see Fig. 2 and related text) an amplifier circuit/method comprising:

a driver stage (210) inherently having first active devices which receive a signal for pre-amplification and output a pre-amplified signal;

an output stage (202) inherently having second active devices which receive said pre-amplified signal for further amplification and output an amplified signal;

a detector (204) which measures levels of a forward signal and a reflected signal of said amplified signal; and

a control circuit (206) which independently controls turning on and off of said first active devices and said second active devices as a function of the forward signal level and the reflected signal level to substantially maintain linearity of said amplifier circuit with load variations, since Tichauer teaches (col. 4-5) that the controller 206 uses the device temperature information to

reconfigure the amplifier stage 202 to either operate at a more benign operating condition or to shutdown when the device temperature exceeds a predetermined threshold, **meeting claims 1-5, and 13-18.**

Regarding claim 6, the circuit of Tichauer can be implemented using devices within the family of BJTs or FETs as mentioned in col. 4, lines 35-45, thus supporting the claimed limitation of “wherein said first active devices and said second active devices are NPN transistors”, **meeting claim 6.**

Regarding claim 19, the circuit of Tichauer **inherently** supports the claimed limitation of “wherein the control circuit controls turning on and off of said first active devices and said second active devices as a function of the forward signal level and the reflected signal level by comparing the forward signal level to the reflected signal level”, since the “WSWR” is determined by the controller 206, **meeting claim 19.**

Claims 1-2, 13-15 and 20 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Shibamura** (U.S. 6,556,815).

Regarding claims 1 and 13-15, Shibamura discloses (see Fig. 1-2 and related text) an amplifier circuit/method comprising:

a driver stage (2A) inherently having first active devices which receive a signal for pre-amplification and output a pre-amplified signal;

an output stage (2b) inherently having second active devices which receive said pre-amplified signal for further amplification and output an amplified signal;

a detector which measures levels of a forward signal and a reflected signal of said amplified signal; and

a control circuit (numerals 5/6) which controls turning on and off of said first active devices and said second active devices as a function of the forward signal level and the reflected signal level to substantially maintain linearity of said amplifier circuit with load variations, **meeting claims 1 and 13-15.**

Regarding claim 2, the circuit of Shibamura supports the claimed limitation of “wherein said output stage is coupled to a load without an isolation device between said output stage and said load” as mentioned in col. 1, lines 46-49, **meeting claim 2.**

Regarding claim 20, the circuit of Shibamura supports the claimed limitation of “wherein the control circuit controls turning on and off of said first active devices and said second active devices as a function of the forward signal level and the reflected signal level by comparing the forward signal level and the reflected signal level with at least one reference value” as shown in Fig. 1-2, **meeting claim 20.**

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Tichauer**.

Regarding claim 7, Tichauer discloses the circuit in a broad sense and being silent about the claimed “input matching circuit”. However it would have been *prima facie* obvious to one of

Art Unit: 2817

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement a matching circuit (e.g. capacitor(s)) at an input, an output or between stages to reduce power consumption, **meeting** claims 7 and 9-10.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8 and 11-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

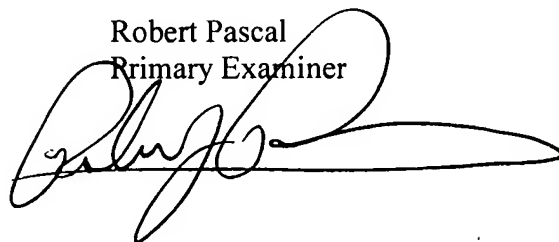
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hieu P. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-8577. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8 A.M - 5P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on 571-272-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hieu Nguyen
AU: 2817

Robert Pascal
Primary Examiner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Pascal', is written over the printed name and title of the Primary Examiner.